

**Methods:** A purpose-designed survey utilising open-ended questions and Likert items was provided to occupational therapists and speech pathologists working in paediatric private practice. Data from open-ended questions were coded and analysed using a thematic approach, whereas Likert data were analysed using frequency statistics.

**Results:** Findings identified core elements of mental health, resilience, and mentoring perceived as crucial by therapists. Elements included common definitions with emergence of several themes relative to mental health (challenges, coping, balance in life); resilience (challenges, coping, persevering, moving forward) and mentoring (debriefing, problem solving). Furthermore, findings indicated a hierarchy of facilitators enabling resilience in these therapists. Critical facilitators comprised informal and formal mentoring, time with family/friends, humour and work/‘not work’ boundaries.

**Conclusion:** This study provided descriptive data relevant to therapist’s experiences of resilience and mentoring within paediatric mental health. It also highlighted responsive strategies employers might implement to enable increased resilience in therapists who work with children experiencing mental health difficulties.

#### Abstract: OT-3

### THE MULTI-DISCIPLINARY PREVOCATIONAL SKILLS TRAINING TEAM: CURRENT PRACTICES IN PREVOCATIONAL SKILLS TRAINING IN THE PHILIPPINES

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**Background:** Occupational therapists address the changing focus of skills training among adolescents with disabilities, paying more attention to developing occupational behaviour related to independent living in the community and vocational preparation through prevocational programs. The purpose of this research is to determine and describe current practices in prevocational skills training of Filipino adolescents among selected institutions in Metro Manila, Philippines.

**Methods:** This study employed a multiple case-study method of qualitative design. Purposive judgment sampling was employed in selecting the three institutions that participated in the study. The Document Review Guide (Driscoll, 2007), Interview Guide (Boyce & Neal, 2007) and Skilled Observation Guide (USAID, 2008), were validated and used during in-depth interviews, document reviews and skilled observation. The collected data underwent thematic analysis and triangulation using WEFT-QDA.

**Results:** Results of the data collected and thematic analysis provided an interesting array of responses to describe the prevocational skills training practices for adolescents of the institutions. The researchers of this study present the “Three Ps of Prevocational Skills Training” which describes practices in the domains of : Process, Program and Professionals involved. A separate section gives insight to the role of occupational therapists in prevocational programs.

**Conclusion:** This study was able to provide a preliminary description of the current practices that institutions employ in implementing prevocational skills training for adolescents. Such practices have been seen to be effective and follows best practices in prevocational programs, which in turn can be emulated by other institutions.

#### Abstract: OT-4

### THE “TRAVELLING” TEAM: PROMOTING HEALTH AND WELLNESS IN THE NORTHERN PHILIPPINES

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**Background:** In order to address the pressing problem of the lack of rehabilitation and education services in Northern Philippines, the SJL Therapeutic and Education Management (TEAM) travel for miles to visit the region with goals of promoting health and wellness through service provision of occupational therapy, speech—language therapy and special education. This paper describes the journey of the TEAM, their roles, and the challenges they face in addressing the needs of the children with special needs they serve.

**Methods:** Using a multi-method qualitative design, autoethnographic and online ethnographic personal accounts of seven TEAM members were collected through an online interview questionnaire and analysis of the group’s social blog. Thematic analysis was used in the organisation and analysis of the interview transcripts, followed by data triangulation.

**Results:** The etic language and emic virtual expressions of the participants exposes themes related to a preliminary service delivery model that illustrates how TEAM provides and promotes health and well-being through a multi-disciplinary approach to education and rehabilitation.

**Conclusion:** In conclusion, this presentation describes the practices and perspectives of the travelling TEAM. Much can be learned from this experience in promoting health and wellness in the northern regions of the country, and we are thus called to emulate such innovation, dedication, and challenged to defy the convention.

#### Abstract: OT-5

### A PEOPLE-CENTRED SYSTEM OF MANAGING A HORTICULTURE TRAINING GROUP FOR CONSUMERS WITH PSYCHIATRIC ILLNESS IN THE

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**Background:** Horticulture therapy is the use of plants as a therapeutic medium by a trained professional to achieve a defined goal clinically. The evidence shows horticulture could promote physical and psychological well-being. A new system of work was introduced to an existing horticulture training group to enrich service performance and outcomes with adequate safety and supervision.

**Methods:** Treatment return was reviewed retrospectively. Data was categorised into: (1) attendance; (2) new consumers; (3) working days; (4) total consumers per month; and (5) compliance rate in using of personal protective equipment (PPE) after incorporating a bi-weekly tool box talk with random spot checking in the workplace. A discussion group was held among the people in charge of the workshop, related staff, and every consumer. The interactive management style incorporated new initiatives including: (1) an hourly session for consumers from the acute admission and sub-acute wards; (2) a tool box talk, asking which types of PPE should be used to protect themselves during work; and (3) quarterly reinforcing activities such as a barbecue or outing. Individual feedback sessions were also held to gather some qualitative data for continuous improvement.

**Results:** The total number of attendees sharply increased from 347 consumers in the first two quarters to 924 consumers in the last two quarters. The compliance rate for the use of PPE was 100%.

**Conclusion:** The findings gathered support for an interactive management style which could enhance performance statistics and customer satisfaction. The key element of managing a workgroup was to strike a balance between the potential therapeutic value and risk management under the people-centred system.

### Abstract: OT-6

## UNRAVELING CLINICAL EXPERIENCE: AN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

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**Background:** Clinical internship is one of the integral components of the occupational therapy (OT) curriculum

providing opportunities for students to learn experientially, bridging the theories they learned in the classrooms and laboratories, with those of the actual workplace settings. However, there is no clear description of what clinical learning is, based on students' experiences during training. This study aimed to: (1) describe the actual clinical experience during internship; (2) describe the perceptions of students on their clinical learning; and (3) determine perceived factors pertaining to the student, the supervisor, the setting, and other factors that affect learning in the course of their clinical internship.

**Methods:** The experiences of four 5<sup>th</sup> year OT students enrolled at the University of Santo Tomas were gathered through qualitative research methods consisting of interviews, direct observations, and document reviews. Emerging themes and categories were then derived from these data.

**Results:** Analysis revealed that actual clinical experience is considered as a routine, a challenge, and a learning experience. Three major themes captured the perception of interns on learning during clinical internship. These are entering the real world, developing competence and confidence, and deeper understanding of OT. Interns emphasised good supervision, variety of cases, and promoting independence as facilitating factors. They considered limited opportunities, resources, and practice as obstructing factors.

**Conclusion:** The results showed that the clinical learning experience was viewed positively by the interns despite the intricacies encountered throughout the rotation. Students' perception of learning is rooted in the contextual encounters with the patient and the opportunities to practice a wide range of activities. Furthermore, perceived factors that contribute or hinder their learning also contributed to their total clinical learning experience.

### Abstract: OT-7

## NON-COGNITIVE FACTORS ON ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

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**Background:** The present study sought to determine the non-cognitive factors on academic performance of the Second Year Public and Private High School Students in the Division of Silay City. Specifically, it aimed to determine the profile of the participants in terms of their emotional intelligence, emotional resilience, and academic performance. It likewise determined the relationship between the variables.

**Methods:** The sample consisted of 30 public high school students and 30 private high school students, selected by simple random sampling. The study sample responded to